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AGENCY POLICY ON INFORMATION PROCESSING AND ADP

1. The processing and exploitation of information by the Agency is becoming increasingly important in the fulfillment of CIA's mission. Advances in information processing technology and the rapid development of computers and related equipment are having a significant impact on our operating methods because they provide new tools capable of processing greater volumes of information more rapidly and accurately.

2. During the next decade the Intelligence Community can anticipate considerably enlarged requirements for information processing. Agency policy is to meet this challenge through the systematic development and utilization of human skills and the most modern tools available and, in order to ensure their most effective and economical use, to direct the application of these resources as an integral part of the Agency planning, programming, and budgeting system. Accordingly, the following principles will govern:

   a. Policy direction and staff responsibility for all information processing activities which use electronic data (computing) equipment shall be the responsibility of the Executive Director-Comptroller, with the assistance of an Information Processing Staff which will be established in the Office of Planning, Programming and Budgeting.

   b. A CIA Computer Support Center shall be maintained in the Directorate of Science and Technology to provide all directorates and independent offices and staffs with computer services support to satisfy requirements for programming assistance and operation of computer equipment. Problem analysis will ordinarily be the responsibility of the directorate or component receiving computer service support; however, in the absence of a capability by a directorate or component to provide its own problem analysis, the Computer Support Center shall provide such assistance as a service of common concern.

c.   The computer installations in Records Integration
Division and the National Photographic Interpretation
Center will continue to operate independently of the CIA
Computer Support Center. It is recognized, however, that
future technological developments may dictate review of
this decision, at which time due consideration will also be
given to security and other factors.

d.   Each Deputy Director shall appoint an Information
Processing Coordinator to establish priorities, develop
programs and, as appropriate, undertake problem analysis
to meet the information processing requirements of his
directorate.